



U.S. Application:

Takenori IDEHARA

For:

INPUT-OUTPUT APPARATUS SELECTING METHOD

FOR NETWORK SYSTEM

U.S. Serial No.:

09/082,127

RECEIVED

Confirmation No.:

2348

SEP 2 2 2004

Filed:

May 20, 1998

Technology Center 2600

Group Art Unit:

2624

Examiner:

King Y. Poon

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

September 17, 2004

Date of Deposit

Tung T. Nguyen

Name of Applicant Assignee, or Registered Representative

September 17, 2004

Date of Signature

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant wishes to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of each document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The references cited below are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind.

Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the items listed below are properly citable against the above-identified application.

Submitted herewith are copies of Japanese Office Action Rejections dated June 22, 2004 (without English translations) for Japanese Patent Applications Nos. H09-146081 and H09-146082 which are foreign counterparts of the above-identified U.S. patent application.

Applicants have listed the documents in the order in which they appear in the Rejections.

The Japanese Office Actions cite the following references:

- (1) Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 03-150614 (HITACHI LTD), published June 27, 1991 (note that this item was brought to the attention of the Examiner in Applicant's Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement mailed to the Patent and Trademark Office on September 15, 2003);
- (2) Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 03-164828 (TOSHIBA CORP), published July 16, 1991;
- Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 05-324251
 (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC WORKS LTD), published December 7, 1993;
- (4) Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 06-119135 (CANON INC), published April 28, 1994;
- (5) Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 06-161685 (SEIKO EPSON CORP), published June 10, 1994;
- Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 08-006884 (CANON INC), published January 12, 1996; and
- (7) Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 09-044435 (RICOH CO LTD), published February 14, 1997.

Serial No. 09/082,127

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e), it is hereby certified that each item of information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of being first cited in a foreign communication in a counterpart foreign application, no fee is incurred. If it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,

3y:

Reg. No. 42,935

Attorney for Applicant

TNT:TTN:pm SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP 717 North Harwood Suite 3400 Dallas, Texas 75201-6507 (214) 981-3482 (direct) (214) 981-3300 (main) (214) 981-3400 (facsimile) September 17, 2004

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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.